

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A ladder adapted to be secured to ~~for~~ a truck fitted with a pivotal tailgate, the ladder comprising

a first leg portion pivotally coupled to a second leg portion, at least one of said leg portions being fitted with at least one rung;

an upper end of the first leg portion being pivotally attachable to an upper portion of the tailgate and a lower end of the second leg portion being pivotally and releasably secured on ~~attachable~~ a lower portion of the truck,

whereby when the tailgate is in its closed position, the first leg portion and the second leg portion continuously extend over the tailgate in a first operable position and opening the tailgate is associated with spontaneous and automatic deploying the ladder into a corresponding second operable position.
2. (Original) A ladder according to claim 1, wherein the location that the first leg portion is attached to the tailgate and the location that the second leg portion is attached to the truck both extend forward of the location where said first leg portion is coupled to said second leg portion.
3. (Original) A ladder according to claim 2, wherein at least the first leg portion comprises two parallelly extending side rails with the at least one rung parallelly disposed therebetween.
4. (Original) A ladder according to claim 1, wherein the second leg portion comprises a single support leg.
5. Canceled.

6. (Original) A ladder according to claim 5, wherein the second leg portion is swingable rearwardly upon detachment from the truck.
7. (Original) A ladder according to claim 1, wherein the first leg portion and the second leg portion are lockably coupled to thereby prevent displacing the tailgate into an open position.
8. (Original) A ladder according to claim 1, wherein between the first leg portion and the second leg portion there is a hinge fixable at a plurality of intermediate positions to thereby facilitate arresting the second leg portion at a plurality of corresponding angular positions with respect to the first leg portion.
9. (Original) A ladder according to claim 1, wherein the ladder is spontaneously deployed to a second operable position upon opening the tailgate and where at said second operable position there is a rung accessible at a level lower than where the ladder is fastened to the lower portion of the truck.
10. (Original) A ladder according to claim 1, wherein the lower portion of the truck to which the second leg portion is attachable is a bumper of the truck.
11. (Original) A ladder according to claim 1, wherein the lower portion of the truck to which the second leg portion is attachable is a lower rear portion of a chassis of the truck.
12. (Currently amended) A ladder according to claim 1, wherein the lower ends of the second leg portion are pivotally connectable to a support leg by ~~means of~~ removable pivot pins.
13. (Original) A ladder according to claim 12, wherein the ladder may be deployed such that it is

supported at its lower end by the ground surface.

14. (Currently amended) A ladder according to claim 12, wherein the second leg portion may be arrested at any angular position by ~~means of~~ a pivot hinge extending between the first leg portion and the second leg portion lockable at several angular positions.

15. (Currently amended) A ladder according to claim 1, wherein both the first leg portion and the second leg portion each comprise two parallelly extending side rails that ~~the side rails of the first and the second leg portions~~ are made of pre-fabricated modular components.

16. Canceled.

17. (Original) A ladder according to claim 15, wherein pre-fabricated members of the side rails are pivotally fixable to one another.